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AUTHORITY: Sec. 504(c)(1) of the Equal Access to Justice Act (5 U.S.C. 504(c)(1); sec. 7(d) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3535(d)).

SOURCE: 52 FR 27126, July 17, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

# **Subpart A—General Provisions**

#### § 14.50 Definitions.

Act. The Equal Access to Justice Act, 5 U.S.C. 504, title II of Pub. L. 96–481, as amended by Pub. L. 99–80.

Adjudicative officer. The hearing examiner, administrative law judge, administrative judge of the HUD Board of Contract Appeals, or other officer designated by the Secretary or other responsible Department official, who presided at the adversary adjudication.

Adversary adjudication. (a) An adjudication under 5 U.S.C. 554 in which the position of the United States is represented by counsel or otherwise, but not including an adjudication for the purpose of establishing or fixing a rate or for the purpose of granting or renewing a license; and

(b) Appeals of decisions of contracting officers made pursuant to section 6 of the Contract Disputes Act of 1978 (41 U.S.C. 605) before agency boards

of contract appeals as provided in section 8 of that Act (41 U.S.C. 607).

Agency counsel (a) When the position of the Department is being represented, the attorney or attorneys designated by the Department's General Counsel to represent the Department in a proceeding covered by this part, and

(b) When the position of another agency of the United States is being represented, the representative as designated by that agency.

Department. The Department of Housing and Urban Development, or the organizational unit within the Department responsible for conducting an adversary adjudication subject to this part.

*Proceeding*. An adversary adjudication as defined above.

Secretary. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

#### §14.100 Time computation.

Time periods stated in this part shall be computed in accordance with the Department's rules with respect to computation of time which apply to the underlying proceeding.

## §14.105 Purpose of these rules.

The Act provides for the award of attorney fees and other expenses to eligible individuals and entities who are parties to certain administrative proceedings (adversary adjudications) before the Department. An eligible party may receive an award when it prevails over an agency, unless the agency's position was substantially justified or special circumstances make an award unjust. The rules in this part described the parties eligible for awards and the proceedings that are covered. They also explain how to apply for awards and the procedures and standards that the Department will use to make them.

### §14.110 When the Act applies.

The Act applies to any adversary adjudication pending or commenced before this Department on or after August 5, 1985. It also applies to any adversary adjudication commenced on or after October 1, 1984, and finally disposed of before August 5, 1985, provided that an application for fees and expenses, as described in subpart B of